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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: RONGHUA WEI ET AL.  
Filed: MARCH 26, 2004  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FORMING A NITRIDE LAYER ON A BIOMEDICAL DEVICE  
Serial No.: 10/811,485  
Group Art Unit: 1775  
Examiner: DANIEL MILLER  
Atty. Dkt.: SWRI:003 (3020)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.8, I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a first class, postage prepaid envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date below:

3/13/06  
Date

Robert M. O'Keefe  
Name

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

STATUS INQUIRY

Pursuant to MPEP § 203.08, Applicant requests the Office to advise the undersigned of the status of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. O'Keefe  
Reg. No. 35,630

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